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Auditor General

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March 27, 2003

Re: Jane Doe Follow-up Review
Community Organization Focus Groups

The Auditor General's Office of the City of Toronto is currently conducting a follow-up review of the Toronto Police Service's investigation of sexual assaults.

The original review, requested by Toronto City Council, followed Justice MacFarland's ruling in the Jane Doe sexual assault case. The report which resulted from the review (Review of the Investigation of Sexual Assaults - Toronto Police Service) was made public in October 1999 and included 57 recommendations. If you wish to review this report, it is available on the Internet at www.toronto.ca/ourcity/janedoe_report.pdf.

The Auditor General's Office is interested in speaking with representatives of community organizations that provide assistance to individuals who have been sexually assaulted. To facilitate this process, a series of focus groups is planned to gather information from community organizations. Feedback obtained from this process, together with other information gathered, will be used to evaluate the Toronto Police Service's current handling of sexual assault investigations. We are specifically interested in your recent (since the original report of October 1999) experience with the Toronto Police Service. All information gathered will be kept confidential.

Three focus groups are currently scheduled for April 24, May 1 and May 8, 2003 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Room 310, Metro Hall, 55 John Street, Toronto. Please note that light refreshments will be served starting at 6 p.m. Some reference points that may assist you in preparing for the focus group discussion are attached.

Please confirm your interest and attendance by calling Toni Vigna, Auditor General's Office, at (416) 392-8570. In order to accommodate as many organizations as possible, we are asking that each organization/agency limit their representation to a maximum of two persons.

Yours very truly,

Jeff Griffiths
Auditor General

**Jane Doe Follow-up Review
Auditor General's Office, City of Toronto**

**Reference Points for Discussion
Community Organization Focus Groups**

**April 24th, May 1st, and May 8th 2003
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Metro Hall, Room 310
55 John Street**

**Contacts:
Ruvani Shaubel, Senior Audit Manager (416) 392-8034
Toni Vigna, Audit Project Manager (416) 392-8570**

All discussions should relate to experiences within the last three years.

1. What are some of the experiences with the Toronto Police Service that women have described to you with regard to reporting sexual assaults? In particular, first officers at the scene, divisional sexual assault investigators, and the Sex Crimes Unit (formerly Sexual Assault Squad) detectives.
2. What factors might encourage/discourage women to report a sexual assault to the police?
3. What is your organization's/agency's experience with third-party reporting of sexual assaults to the Toronto Police Service?
4. Are you aware of women who have reported to the police being informed of the steps involved in the investigation of sexual assault?
5. Have you or your agency consulted with, or been approached by the Toronto Police Service to assist in the development of, or be involved in, sexual assault training for police officers or any other community-police endeavour? If so, what has been the level of your involvement?
6. What recommendations would you suggest to improve the police response to, and investigation of sexual assaults?